Construction of by-pass on NH No. 5

2034. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to construct a by-pass to avoid traffic congestion between Bhubaneswar and Cuttack on National Highway No. 5;

(b) whether the proposal has been included in the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI) (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Private sector investment in road construction/maintenance

2035. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Government's policy towards inviting private sector to invest in construction and maintenance of road network in the country;

(b) how the private sector has responded to this;

(c) the reasons for poor response from the private sector; and

(d) the details of the alternative strategy if any, adopted by Government to increase investment in construction and maintenance of road network?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) The policy of the Government is to offer viable National Highway projects to private sector under the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) Scheme based on lowest toll/concession period.

(b) There has been good response from private sector.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Some projects have also been taken up on annuity basis to

increase private investment in construction and maintenance of road network. Some 'Grant' is also being offered on some projects to make them viable.

Accidents on National Highways in Gujarat

2036. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents occurred, persons killed and injured on National Highways in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that majority of these accidents were caused by heavy vehicles mainly trucks and buses;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the remedial measures taken by Government to prevent accidents on National Highways in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) As per latest information received from the Gujarat Government, the number of road accidents, person killed and injured on National Highways in Gujarat during last three years are as under:

Year	Road Accidents	Persons killed	Persons injured
1999	7758	1183	4253
2000	8113	1311	4485
2001	6949	1475	3925

(b) and (c) Data relating to accidents caused by heavy vechicles are not maintained by the Ministry.

(d) Gujarat Government have reported that they have taken the following remedial measures to prevent accidents on National Highways: